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even irregularities are not the result of chance or caprice, but of language laws. This part of the book gives evidence of sound judgment and rare discretion, both as to the things said and those left unsaid.

It seems to us that in a grammar based upon scientific principles, it might not have been amiss to have added a short chapter discussing some of the principal sound-laws of the Spanish language and their practical application to the study of cognates. We believe that nothing aids the student so much in the acquisition of an extensive vocabulary. Even a student having no knowledge of Latin can make use of the Latin element in his mother-tongue. Let us look at the following list of words taken at random: *hijo*, son; *mejor*, better; *año*, year; *señor*, mister; *pueblo*, people; *abogado*, lawyer; *creer*, believe; *llamar*, call; *llorar*, weep. For the average student there is nothing else to do but to commit these words to memory mechanically. But after a little help has been given, the student will develop the habit of looking for related words, and remember this list somewhat as follows: *hijo* (filial); *mejor* (ameliorate); *año* (annual); *señor* (senior); *pueblo* (populous); *abogado* (advocate); *creer* (credible); *llamar* (ex-clam-ation); *llorar* (de-plore). This habit of study once developed not only reduces mere memory work to a minimum, and thus saves much time and irksome work in learning Spanish, but also aids the student very materially in his study of English by developing his sense for the subtler distinctions of meaning of the words of his mother-tongue.

After a detailed and critical examination of the book, we do not hesitate to pronounce the present grammar a work of singular merit. The explanations are concise, clear and absolutely accurate, besides being illustrated with numerous examples. The sentences for translation are well graded, sensible, natural and abundant in quantity. They furnish the student with a practical working vocabulary of some 2,000 words and some 200 important idiomatic phrases. The book, moreover, derives a special value from the fact that its usefulness does not end after the primary object of mastering the elements of the Spanish language has been attained. Because the authors have explained fundamental principles, and not detached facts, they have succeeded in bringing into a small compass not only all the inflections, but also the essentials of syntactical construction; so that the book is fully adequate to the demands made upon a reference grammar by the advanced student. A full index enables the student to find any desired information without loss of time.

The typographical excellence of the book is attested by the fact, that a most careful reading has disclosed only two insignificant errors, viz.:

a misplaced accent in § 169 (*d*), *Léon* instead of *León*; and in § 202 (*e*) the word *autorretrato*, which should have been inserted under (*b*).

If any proof were needed that in an elementary text-book scholarship and practicability do not necessarily interfere with one another, this present grammar furnishes conclusive proof. The whole subject matter is presented on a sound philological basis, and the individual points are set forth with clearness. By the aid of judicious comparison with Latin forms, the authors cannot fail to impress the attentive student with the fact, that Grammar is not a dry collection of arbitrary forms and rules, but a rational presentation of the phenomena of language; and that language is not made by grammarians, but is a spontaneous growth and development in accordance with certain fundamental principles of the human mind. If a student is repelled by the difficulty and dryness of Grammar, we believe that the fault lies almost invariably with the teacher or text-book, in as much as these fail to bring to the students' consciousness the universal and immutable principles underlying all language. When once the rational basis of Grammar is discovered, even the less gifted student becomes interested. That Hills' and Ford's Spanish Grammar tends to arouse this kind of interest we consider not the least of the merits of this excellent book.

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NOTES ON RECENT FRENCH TEXT-BOOKS.

English Colloquialisms with their French Equivalents, by ARTHUR H. SMITH. Hachette & Co., London, 1904. iv and 120 pp.

En Voyage, Conversations in French and English for the Use of Tourists and Classes, with vocabulary, by T. M. CLARK. Wm. R. Jenkins, New York, 1904. iv and 120 pp.

Molière: Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, edited, with notes and vocabulary, by P. A. ROR and W. B. GUITTEAU. American Book Co., New York, 1904. 135 pp.

Dumas: Les Trois Mousquetaires, edited, with notes and vocabulary, by C. FONTAINE. American Book Co., New York, 1904. 208 pp.

Sandau: Mlle. de la Seiglière, edited, with notes and vocabulary, by ELIZABETH M. WHITE. American Book Co., New York, 1904. 163 pp.

A Concise Dictionary of the French and English Languages, by F. E. A. GASC. 941 pp. H. Holt & Co., New York, 1904.

The collection of *English Colloquialisms with their French Equivalents* which Professor Smith has gathered promises to be one of the greatest helps for class-room instruction that has appeared in several years. We have here listed upwards of two hundred and fifty English expressions in daily use, not translated literally into French, but with the equivalent French idiom. There are included not only a great number of colloquial phrases, such as: He is at it again, *Le voilà qui recommence*; To beat about the bush, *Tourner autour du pot*; You can't get blood out of a stone, *On ne saurait tirer de l'huile d'un mur*; but also many names of games, (Blind man's buff; *Colin Maillard*), names of certain feasts of the Church (All Souls' Day, *Le Jour des Morts*), legal terms (To all whom it may concern, *A tous ceux que ces présentes regardent*; Contempt of court, *Outrage aux magistrats*), commercial expressions (*Carriage-paid*, *Franco à domicile*, Sale by auction, *Vente aux enchères*), and military commands (Right-about face, *Demi-tour à droite*, Fall in, *A vos rangs*). The phrases are arranged in alphabetical order according to the key-word, which is further indicated by bold-faced type. To the average American student a few of the English expressions are unfamiliar, such as: Once in a blue moon, *Tous les trente-six du mois*; I am a dab at it, *J'y suis passé maître*; An apple-pie bed, *Un lit en portefeuille*; but these are very few indeed, and almost all of the phrases listed are as well-known on this side of the sea as in Great Britain. As the editor suggests in his preface, the idioms are particularly suited to conversational work in the class-room, where the reviewer feels sure this excellent collection will be appreciated by students and instructors alike.

The little phrase-book, *En Voyage*, is intended to serve simply as an aid to conversation. It contains some thirty very brief dialogues relating to the affairs of daily life. The subjects are well-chosen, the French is idiomatic. However, as is stated in the preface, the book is to be used for study of English as well as of French, and the French dialogues are followed by a set of English equivalents, which are no more than literal translations of the French dialogues, and in which the language is in no wise idiomatic. The addition of word-lists seems almost ridiculous. To the reviewer, the value of the work would have been greatly increased, as it might also have served for purposes of composition, had the two sets of exercises been differentiated so that one could have been used as a vocabulary, but not as a translation for the other.

In *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, the editors have evidently sought to prepare an edition of Molière's famous comedy that will suit the requirements of secondary school work. The text is clean, the notes are limited, but concise and sufficient to enable the ordinary student intelligently to comprehend the text, and there is a fairly complete vocabulary. In the course of reading, the following points were noted. Misprints: page 60, line 22, *aller* for *allez*; 112, 21, *veut* for *veux*; vocabulary, page 120, *diner* for *dîner*. Omissions from the vocabulary: *auprès*, 97, 7; *bailler*, 48, 17; *enbas*, 43, 22; *en haut*, 43, 24; *ensuite*, 96, 13; *lieu*, 49, 17; *marquis*, 80, 7; *mémoire*, m., 58, 15 (the translation is given under the feminine); *prétendre*, 79, 20; *réussir*, 106, 10. As a whole, this edition is admirable, the only part open to criticism being the vocabulary, which is practically confined to the list of words with one or two direct translations, with almost entire omission of idiomatic phrases. Of course it is largely a matter of individual preference whether the student shall gain his knowledge of idioms through the vocabulary or through direct, personal instruction in the class-room, and a simple word-list, to be sure, gives the student greater opportunity to exercise his ingenuity. A real drawback to the vocabulary in question, however, is the frequent omission of the figurative or extended meanings of words, and cases occur where certain direct meanings of words are lacking. Such are: *apprendre*, to teach, 29, 1; *en*, like, as, 45, 15; *poudre*, dust, 53, 33; *gagner*, to overcome, 81, 13; *sentir*, to smell of, 89, 22. Again, French words that are used to explain idiomatic or obsolete expressions in the text are sometimes not in the vocabulary, as: *résultat*, 54, note 8; *élégant*, 56, n. 18; *s'acquitter*, 58, n. 2. Such slight imperfections as the foregoing in no way impair the usefulness of this excellent text. The reviewer had occasion to use it with a collegiate class during the past winter and found it entirely satisfactory.

It is with pleasure that we greet a second edition of Dumas' ever-fresh romance of the *Trois Mousquetaires*. It is surprising, indeed, that none has appeared long before, for the writer knows of no other text which will hold as well the attention of the average student, or which will encourage his interest to a greater degree. The present edition differs widely from the excellent edition by Prof. Sumichrast, both in the material offered and in the manner of its presentation. In Prof. Fontaine's edition the selections are taken wholly from the second part of the work, beginning with d'Artagnan's mission to England to recover the queen's pendant. The other episodes given are the adventures of the musketeers at the siege of La Rochelle, the pursuit and the final judgment of Milady. One misses with regret the opening

chapters of the book which describe d'Artagnan's bold, courageous nature, and the famous duel through which he won the friendship of his three companions. On the other hand several long and somewhat tiresome descriptions are well omitted, as, of course, the private adventures of Milady. A cursory reading of the text showed only the following misprints: *Bragelone* for *Bragelonne*, 5, 36; *aurez* for *aurait*, 71, 1; *did* for *dit*, 104, 26. Nothing is found which quite equals the biographical and geographical index of the Sumichrast edition and the notes are very few in number, but an admirable vocabulary leaves no room for complaint. Perhaps one may question the utility of listing words in the vocabulary which are identical in French and English, and one wonders why *Normand* is omitted when *Picard* is given.

Of the three texts here noted none is perhaps freer from errors and less open to criticism than Miss White's edition of *Mlle de la Seiglière*. The introduction, though very brief, is sufficient, a rapid reading of the text reveals no misprints, and the notes are correct. The only criticism one might offer is that the notes give the student too much help by constant reference to the idiomatic expressions listed in the vocabulary.

All of the text-books under discussion show the advances of the last few years in text-editing and also the tendency toward the vocabulary editions which seem to be universally demanded by the secondary schools. For college work the reviewer would be glad to see a series of texts in which the aid given would be wholly towards the literary interpretation of the text, while the student should be referred to his grammar and dictionary for the study of the language.

The new *Concise Gasc Dictionary* will find a ready welcome in schools and colleges everywhere; its convenient size, clear print, and flexible back would be sufficient to recommend it aside from the actual value of the word-list. The dictionary is a revised abridgment of the *Students' and Library Dictionaries*¹ by the same author; like the latter it is printed with three columns to the page. The scope of the *Concise Gasc* is about that of the *Bellows Dictionary*,¹ but, as will be seen from the comparison below, the number of words compares favorably with that of the usual school dictionaries, here represented by the latest addition, namely, that by James and Molé, revised by Tolhausen and Payn.² For purposes of comparison the sections *r-ral* (179 words) of the French-English part, and *n-nay* (94 words) of the English-French were chosen. The number

of words in these sections in each dictionary not found in that upon the same line is indicated by the numeral which follows.

R-ral :	Concise Gasc,	2,	Students' Gasc,	139 ;
	"	"	14, James and Molé,	65 ;
	"	"	32, Bellows,	11 .
N-nay :	Concise Gasc,	2,	Students' Gasc,	48 ;
	"	"	10, James and Molé,	23 ;
	"	"	15, Bellows,	0 .

The words that are omitted in the *Concise Gasc* are either more or less unusual forms, the stem of which is to be seen in a word listed (e. g. *racitisme* not found, but *rachitique* given), or else technical and scientific terms rarely met with by the ordinary reader. In order to examine the definitions of the *Concise Gasc*, the section *r-radoucir* (about one hundred words) was compared with the corresponding section of the Darmesteter-Hatzfeld-Thomas *Dictionnaire général*,³ and the only omissions found in the *Concise Gasc* were of obsolete or rare, technical meanings. In closing, attention should be called to the fact that there is little or no attempt to indicate pronunciation in the body of the work, but in the prefatory pages is to be found a list of the words which show the greatest variations from the ordinary rules. There are also tables of weights, measures, money, and irregular verbs, and a set of grammatical observations. From his examination of the *Concise Gasc*, the reviewer would not hesitate to recommend it for all ordinary school and college use.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

LEXICAL NOTES.

To the Editors of Mod. Lang. Notes :

SIRS: I wish to suggest two corrections to *The New English Dictionary*. 1. BATTALIONS. In *The Valiant Welshman* by "R. A. Gent," 1615 (reprinted 1902 as No. 23 of the *Muenchner Beiträge zur Rom. und Eng. Philologie*) occur the lines :

Twise, in two haughty set Battalions,
The base vsurper Munmouth got the day.
(I, ll. 71-2.)

¹ H. Holt & Co.

² Macmillan & Co., 1903.

³ Hachette et Cie.